GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2800
ANSWERED ON:10.03.2003
ORGANIC FARMING
RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the steps the Government propose to take to promote organic farming;

(b) whether a Task Force has been appointed; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV)

(a): During the X Plan, a proposal for a new scheme, `National Project on Organic Farming' is under process for approval which includes setting up of a National Institute of OrganicFarming whose function will be to promote and facilitate various aspects of organic farming in the country. The scheme envisages inter-alia the following:

? Putting in place a system of certification of organic produce including prescribing National Standards of organic farming.
? Capacity building for organic farming.
? Support for commercial production units of organic inputs like fruits and vegetables waste compost units, biofertilizer production units and hatcheries for vermiculture, etc.
? Promotion and extension of organic farming.

(b) &(c): A Task Force on Organic Farming was constituted in the Department ofAgriculture & Cooperation under the Chairmanship of Dr. Kunwarji Bhai Jadhav during May2000. The Task Force had submitted its report during November 2001 and based on the recommendations of Task Force the National Project on Organic Farming has been conceived for implementation during X Plan.